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3,310
U.S. PLANES SHOT DOWN
IN NORTH VIET NAM

Two Crucial Issues

PRESIDENT Ho Chi Minh's appeal on the occasion of July 20 reaffirmed in clearest terms the Vietnamese people's position regarding the two crucial issues now under discussion within the Viet Nam settlement: the withdrawal of American troops and the holding of general elections in South Viet Nam.

Everybody knows how obstinate the ruling circles in Washington are on both subjects. Prompted by their desire to cling to South Viet Nam at any rate, they have been refusing to withdraw all U.S. and satellite troops from there. Viciously trying to touch the chauvinistic string of the American people, Henry Cabot Lodge declared at the 25th session of the Paris Conference that such a withdrawal would be tantamount to a "capitulation". So, after having committed an armed aggression against South Viet Nam and occupied militarily her territory, the American imperialists are exacting a price for the cessation of such an aggression and occupation, and this price is precisely the permission given to them to impose their neo-colonialism in South Viet Nam by rather political methods.

To soothe U.S. public opinion which has been pressing for the repatriation of the GIs, President Nixon recently opened a safety-valve by ordering that 25,000 U.S. troops be pulled out, which is in essence a "trickery", as President Ho Chi Minh put it in his appeal. This move, so loudly ballyhooed by Washington's propaganda machine, was also aimed at making people believe that the U.S. plan to "Vietnamize" the war was in

a groove. But nobody was taken in: if so many elite U.S. divisions had been badly trounced in South Viet Nam, how could puppet soldiers with no morale assume their combat burden?

President Ho Chi Minh has made unequivocally plain the Vietnamese people's demand: "The Vietnamese people firmly demand the withdrawal of all U.S. and satellite troops, not the withdrawal of only 25,000 or 250,000 or 500,000 men, but a total, complete, unconditional withdrawal."

TURNING to the question of future general elections in South Viet Nam, President Ho Chi Minh pointed out in his appeal: "After the total withdrawal of the U.S. and satellite troops and the complete liberation of South Viet Nam from foreign invasion, the Provisional Coalition Government, as provided for in the (NFL-Ed.) ten-point overall solution, will organize free and democratic general elections to enable the South Vietnamese people to determine themselves their own political regime, elect a constituent assembly, work out a Constitution and set up the official coalition government of South Viet Nam, without any foreign country being allowed to interfere". And he stressed: "So long as U.S. troops and the puppet administration remain in existence in South Viet Nam, really free and democratic general elections will be absolutely impossible."

(Continued page 2)

ALWAYS ON THE LOOK OUT FOR ENEMY PLANES!
(Young girls of Hanoi X factory self-defence unit)



South Viet Nam

Repeated PLAF Attacks in Saigon Periphery, South of DMZ and Western High Plateaux.

- PLAF onset on My Tho town, on base of US Division 9 and on 6 sub-sectors: 700 enemy troops put out of action.
- Enemy convoy on Highway No 13 ambushed: 62 vehicles destroyed, 200 GI casualties.
- Many columns of US Airborne Division 101 intercepted at A Bia (Northwest): 280 GIs killed, 11 aircraft downed.
- A Civil guard company wiped out southwest of Da Lat, 30 military vehicles wrecked on Road No 19 (East of Pleiku).

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- In "De-Americanizing" the War, Washington Admits U.S. Failure in South Viet Nam.

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- South Viet Nam and the Anniversary of the Signing of the 1954 Geneva Agreements

THE Missouri Delta, South Vietnam's largest reservoir of man, power and wealth, has always been one of the areas the control of which is considered by the US-puppet to be decisive for the war issue. The US has committed more than 100,000 troops to this area, and would have committed one of her marine divisions to this area if the latter were not lured into the Vietnam trap at South Vietnam's 17th parallel. The 17th parallel, which was the only place a division had undergone special training in Kansas so that, according to the US press, each combat soldier could be a guerrilla, was always moved swiftly and noiselessly in the brushwood, in a maze of canals and rivers. Subsequently, the 9th Infantry, a veteran of the Normandy D-Day, was sent to the area and shipped to the war zone in the Mien

In April 1967, Westmoreland mustered the 101st Airborne Brigade, the 196th Light Infantry Brigade and the 3rd Brigade of the *Tropic Lightning* to form the *Oregon Task Force* and hurl it into the province.

In Dec. 1967, the division, w

To no avail, Westmoreland came to welcome home the first homecoming contingents and extol U.S. aggression in Viet Nam. The lucky GIs who leave our country alive do not do so as winners, and clearly they are not to blame. 'De-Americanisation' is merely a U.S. confession of failure of U.S. armed forces in an imperialist war against a people who are resolved to defend their national inheritance and profoundly attached to independence and freedom, just like the American people themselves 200 years ago.

"The South Vietnamese people cherish peace, but that must be peace in independence and freedom. If the U.S. stubbornly prolongs war of aggression in South Vietnam, the people here will fight stubbornly, till not a single aggressor soldier is left. The recent convention of the South Viet Nam Congress of People's Representatives and the establishment of the RS Provisional Revolutionary Government

*We warmly support the 20, 1969 statement of the Provisional

• We approve and support the most righteous struggle of all the strata of the Chinese people to liberate the motherland from the war disaster inflicted by the Thieu-Ky-Huung war cabal and set up a peace cabinet.

On the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the founding of the Republic of the Vietnamese National Alliance of the National, Democratic and Peace Forces, we declare such solidarity with the Vietnamese people and the National Alliance calls on all our fellow countrymen—intellectuals, students, bourgeois industrialists and traders, religious leaders, labor unions, patriotic organizations and patriotic-minded officers, soldiers, civil servants, students, etc.—to stand united and to promptly coordinate for the survival of the nation, for the independence and sovereignty of the country.

We call on the Thieu-Ky-Hung puppet regime to build an independent, democratic, peaceful, neutral and non-aligned Vietnam, to ensure a just and peaceful resolution of the Vietnam peace problem.

society in Cuba. The Vietnamese people are convinced that the shining example set by Cuba will influence Latin America and that the heroic sacrifice of the Guevara will stir up millions of people and touch off the

Long live the everlasting solidarity and militant friendship between our two peoples.

Cuba si, Yanki no!
Viet Nam si, Yanki no!

Cuba si, Yankee no!
Viet Nam si, Yankee no!

(Excerpts from the DRVN Foreign Ministry statement on the occasion of the anniversary of the July 23, 1962 Geneva Agreement on Laos).

American and Thai military personnel have commanded the rightist forces

The DRVN Government has consistently respected the 1962 Geneva Agreement on Laos. As a signatory to this accord, the DRVN Government severely condemns the brazen intervention and aggression of the U.S. and its

that the U.S. stop its intervention and aggression in Laos, withdraw all U.S. military personnel and Thai satellite troops from Laos, first and foremost, the U.S. must end immediately its bombardments of the Laotian territory so as to make it possible for the Laotians to settle their own affairs on the basis of the 1962 Geneva Agreement on Laos and the present situation in Laos.

defending regimes that trample upon freedom. When these rules collapse or fail through their own rottenness and impotence, the only thing the Americans know is to 'defend freedom' by dropping millions of tons of bombs on Vietnamese steps.

Those abominable crimes of the Americans, which "make stones cry out" have sparked off unprecedented indignation all over the world. Renowned scholars and scientists, who have

one would have the impression of a desert of the Arizona type... It was in this fantastic environment that the 8 companies of Shock Youth had been operating over the last 3 months.

On May 9, 1968, an engineering team was formed comprising 5 young boys and 5 young girls still in the teens. Their job consisted of locating the site of the bomb which had not yet exploded.

July 6, 1968 was the most trying day with 650 bombs dumped by the enemy including 24 magnetic bombs. Nine bombs hit the road, interdicting it over a distance of 250 metres. The problem was to repair this section as quickly as possible.

say nothing of film shows and artistic and cultural entertainments. Apart from these "routine" and "normal" activities, (these words are on the tongue of Vietnamese time and again) there was the problem raised by burned or damaged lorries whose cargos should be salvaged. There were also fallen army men to bury and wounded men to attend to. Lastly, our young friends put in 250 work-days to help

As I asked him what he would like to do later on, he replied without hesitation that he really would like to become an army officer. He was good in maths and had always qualified for the general mathematic competition examination which takes place yearly in his province.

AND so ended my visit to Dong Loc, a visit so short which left me a load of impressions, thoughts and projects... I tried to visualize what these young men and women would become in the next 5 or 10 years. I left Dong Loc, optimistic as to the future of Viet Nam.

ANTOINE DAUPHIN

Ha Tinh and the Production...

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(continued from page 3)

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But no savage persecution

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The 20th of July in the World

— The Soviet Union —
“Month of USSR — Viet
Nam Friendship and of Solidarity
with the Vietnamese
People’s Struggle against U.S.
Aggression” opened on July
18, 1969. A celebration meet-
ing was called in Moscow, in
which Gen P.I. Batov, Vice-
President of the USSR-Viet
Nam Friendship Society,
warmly hailed the successes
won by the armed forces
and people in both zones.
Batov demanded that the
American imperialists
unconditionally withdraw
from South Viet Nam all
their troops and those of
satellite countries, and res-
pect the right of self-deter-
mination of the South Viet-
namese people.

— International organizations including the International Association of Democratic Lawyers, the World Federation of Democratic Youth, the International Union of Students, the International Federation of Democratic Women, ... have stepped up their solidarity and support activities in favour of Viet Nam.

— The Permanent Committee of the International Conference of Solidarity with the Vietnamese People against the U.S. Imperialist Aggressors, for the Defence of Peace launched on this occasion an appeal exposing

— On July 19, a grand meeting was held in Paris by the **France Peace Movement** under the slogan "The French People at the Side of Viet Nam". It was attended by many leaders of the movement and various mas-

organizations such as the C.G.T. (General Confederation of Labour), the French Women's Union, the French Communist Youth's Union.

— In the U.A.R. the "Support Viet Nam" Week was observed from July 11 to 20 under the sponsorship of the Arab Socialist Union, the Peace Council and the Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee.

— In Syria, Tanzania, Burma, Pakistan, Great Britain, Italy, West Germany, etc. many rallies and meetings in support, and for the victory, of the Vietnam people took place under the slogans, "End the War of Aggression in Viet Nam," "U.S., Get Out of Viet Nam," "We Are Entirely on the Side of the heroic Vietnamese People!"

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In mid July, the PLAF continued to strike at the enemy in 3 provinces north, northwest and southwest of Saigon, west of Hue, south of the DMZ and in Pleiku and Dalat (Western High Plateaux).

On July 10 and 11, they stormed many enemy positions within and without My Tho town, 60 km southwest of Saigon; the "Open Arms" centre, puppet artillery Battalion 71, the airfield, Binh Duc base, 6 km west of the town, PLAF shells hit HQ of U.S. Division 2, the airfield and port installations; 200 GIs killed or wounded, 5 choppers destroyed, 1 war vessel sunk.

500 adverse troops were put out of action at the "Open Arms" centre, the airfield, base of Artillery Battalion 71 and a number of posts in 6 other sub-sectors. In the two onsets against Tan Hiep sub-sector, 30 km north of the town, and the military training centre a toll of 200 enemy troops was exacted.

In Tay Ninh province 57 km northwest of Saigon, on July 10 and 11, regional troops attacked the enemy in 13 localities (including two sub-sectors) and a company of the 1st Cav. at Loc Ninh, 14 km northeast of the town, inflicting 200 enemy casualties; 3 choppers were blasted out of the skies, 2 war vessels sent to the bottom, a 105 mm cannon destroyed. In the July 7 and 11 engagements on the Eastern Vam Co river, 1 km south of the town, 10 war vessels were sunk or burnt, 20 enemy troops killed.

On July 10, the PLAF also intercepted 2 companies at the First Cav. on Highway N°13, 30 km north of Saigon, disabling 80 GIs. On July 12 on the same road, they engaged an American column,

killing 30 GIs and wrecking 6 tanks.

In an ambush against an enemy convoy on Highway N°13 on July 12, at 11 a.m., the PLAF destroyed 62 vehicles (10 tanks) out of 73 vehicles, downed 10 aircraft, and put out of action 200 American soldiers.

Previously, on July 4, they wiped out 16 military vehicles in a mine attack 2 km north of Hon Quan town.

Military Operations

Summing up, from July 10 to 11, in these 3 provinces, the PLAF put out of action 1,400 enemy troops, blasted 22 military vehicles, brought down 8 choppers, sank or set afire 13 river vessels.

According to additional details given by *Giai Phong* Press Agency regarding the raid on "Paloma" camp of U.S. Navy in Saigon 5th District, the self-defence forces in the city disabled 137 Yankees (including many officers) and heavily damaged the facade of the 5-storey building.

On the night of July 18, regional troops in Tra Vinh province, 100 km southwest of Saigon, stole into the town and killed 100 men at the "Open Arms" centre and the police station and *Bao An* troops.

On July 6, 1969, regional troops in Ca Mau province, 240 km southwest of Saigon, sank three vessels.

In A Bia region, 45 km southwest of Hue, on July 10 and 17, the PLAF intercepted an American company of Battalion 1, Brigade 1, and a rescue party, 2 km

southwest of A Bia; 130 GIs killed or wounded, 6 tanks wrecked, 4 choppers downed.

On July 12 and 14, they struck at the columns of Battalion 1 of Regiment 3, and Battalion 1 of Regiment 1, U.S. Airborne Division 101, inflicting 150 casualties on the enemy and knocking out of the skies 7 choppers. From July 2 to 17, in the A Bia area, the enemy, continually harassed by the PLAF, lost 700 men (mostly GIs)

put out of action, 31 aircraft downed and 6 tanks destroyed.

North of Quang Tri (south of the 17th Parallel) the enemy was repeatedly taken to task at Con Tien, Cao Viet, Dong Ha in the first fortnight of July, taking 950 casualties (300 GIs) and having 23 military vehicles blasted, 9 helicopters downed and 3 vessels sunk.

In the Western High Plateaux, on July 16 the PLAF ambushed an enemy convoy on Road 19, about 40 km east of Pleiku, destroying 30 vehicles. Previously on July 13 in a counter-raid at 30 km north of Pleiku, regional troops had put out of action 84 enemy soldiers and grounded a chopper.

On July 10, they hammered at a post defended by a company of *Bao An* troops, 25 km southwest of Da lat, wiping out the whole unit of 80 men, then 60 others of a rescue party and 3 military vehicles.

The same day, many enemy posts at Gia Nghia town, 175 km northeast of Saigon, were stormed; a *Bao An* platoon and 60 puppet troops and 4 military vehicles put out of action.

SAIGON STUDENTS OPPOSE MILITARY TRAINING

THIEU-Ky-Huangs' orders to put students through military training during the summer holidays met with a growing and stiff opposition from university population.

On July 14, in a sit-in at the Faculty of Pharmacy in which 'MPs' also took part, 1,500 students from various sections of the Saigon University denounced the violation of university autonomy, slighting of students' dignity and militarization of the University by the puppet administration. An "Inter-Faculty Committee for the Defence of Students' Rights" was set up and a petition for cancellation of military training for students during the summer vacation voted.

On the night of July 14, 200 students took part in a protest sit-in at the Faculty of Pharmacy.

The next morning the demonstration went on with an attendance of 2,000. The discontents stripped their military uniforms and staged a hunger strike.

In face of the fast growing protest movement, the puppet administration had to resort to repressive measures (withdrawal of the deferment certificate from recruits) to coax the movement (20 per cent increase of examination marks for submissive candidates). However the protest went on from July 16 to 18.

Armed police was sent in to surround the Faculties of Pharmacy, Letters and Sci-

ences. Journalists were denied contacts with the demonstrators and the translation of students' statements into foreign languages was forbidden. Students of the Faculty of Letters were kidnapped by the police.

The reaction of the students was prompt and vigorous: On July 17, they broke into the streets in downtown Saigon while those of the Faculty of Letters went on a hunger strike. At a press conference held by the 'MPs' who had taken part in the sit-in, one of them condemned the puppet administration for "drowning the voice of the students and infringing university autonomy".

In spite of official orders, the Saigon press did not hush up the event and many newspapers reported it on the students' protest movement with banner headlines and photos.

On July 19, a students' delegation was received by the "Deputy Speaker" of the puppet "Lower House" and given the promise that representations would soon be made to the ruling clique in favour of the students.

On July 20, students of the Buddhist Institute in Saigon and of Da Lat University declared full support to their comrades at Saigon University. The following day, the "Inter-Faculty Committee for the Defence of Students' Rights" announced that another wave of protest would start on July 23, 1969.

South Vietnamese Intellectuals in the Common Struggle

(Excerpts from the speech by Professor Nguyen Van Hieu, delegate of the South Viet Nam Radical Socialist Party, at the South Viet Nam Congress of People's Representatives)

As one thinks back along the years, one may say that there have been in the world very few regimes so much hated by the intellectuals as the U.S.-puppet regime in South Viet Nam. Under the dictatorial yoke of Ngo Dinh Diem and his brother Nhu, intellectuals, like people of other walks of life, were tortured,

jailed, murdered. Worse still they were scorned and insulted. However, for the sake of democracy, Diem and Nhu put on the cloak of intellectuals and invented deceitful doctrines to serve as ideological basis for their terror and repression. For their part, the present Thieu-Ky-Huong clique have cast off the fig-leaf hiding their

cruelty and treachery. The puppet Nguyen Van Thieu hurried abuse at the intellectuals, using the language he had acquired while serving in the French colonialists' "auxiliary troops". Could any honest intellectual, including those in the puppet administrative machine, contain his anger when Nguyen Van Thieu referred

to the intelligentsia as "those rascals" and the hoodlum Nguyen Cao Ky shook his fist at intellectual personalities demanding peace, independence and neutrality?

These traitors forget or deliberately deny that the intellectual personalities standing for peace, independence and neutrality, maintain close ties with the age-old traditions of Vietnamese intelligentsia. In their veins flows the blood of Nguyen Trai and Thu Kham Huan and during the 9-year anti-French resistance and after, they have had such representatives as Thai Van Lung,

Le Quang Vinh, and others, whose dauntlessness was worthy of our forefathers. They forget that among these people whom they called "rascals" and threatened to liquidate, many have in spite of prison and arrest remained loyal to the cause of national liberation, while others have refused to collaborate with the enemy for long years, and that a large number of intellectual and civil servants, though compelled to serve in the puppet administration, have kept their allegiance to the native land. No, the true

(Continued page 7)